

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-3, 5-20, and 22-25 are currently pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 15 are independent claims. Claims 2, 3, 5-14, 19, 20, 22, and 25 depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 1. Claims 16-18, 23, and 24 depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 15.

Response to Advisory Action Mailed November 27, 2006

In the Advisory Action dated November 27, 2006, the Examiner states that, in U.S. Patent No. 6,402,052 ("Murawa"), "the valve includes a single moving member (116a or 116b), which along with another moving member controls the flow through the at least two inlets." Applicant respectfully points out that the Examiner has mischaracterized the language of independent claims 1 and 15.

Claims 1 and 15 recite, in part, that "the valve controls liquid flow through the at least two inlets with a single moving member." Because this is open ended claim language, there can be more than two inlets and more than one moving member in the valve. However, the above limitations require that *the valve has a single moving member which controls liquid flow through at least two inlets*. This is clearly not the case in Murawa, where each moving member 116a, 116b controls liquid flow through *only one inlet*. Because the Advisory Action dated Nov. 27, 2006 included an explicit mischaracterization of the language of independent claims 1 and 15, reconsideration of the present application in view of the above and issuance of a Notice of

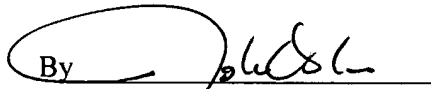
Allowance, or the issuance of an Advisory Action properly addressing the pending claims, are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply to be responsive to all outstanding issues and place the application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or any other issues arise, do not hesitate to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account No. 50-0591, under Order No. 17102/012001 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: December 13, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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